



Air Force Research Laboratory|AFRL

Science and Technology for Tomorrow's Air and Space Force

Success Story

DIRECTED ENERGY DIRECTORATE ENGINEER RECEIVES ARTHUR S. FLEMMING AWARD



Mr. Terry Duncan, chief engineer at the Directed Energy Directorate's Starfire Optical Range, was awarded the Arthur S. Flemming Award, Applied Science category, for outstanding federal service. The award is presented annually to honor outstanding men and women in the Federal Government. The Applied Science category recognizes exceptional ability and performance in dealing with systems integration, program development, and information technology.



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Accomplishment

Mr. Duncan was 1 of 12 outstanding public servants to receive the award. He leads 107 government and contracted scientists and engineers and oversees the overall cost, schedule, and technical performance of the directorate's Starfire Optical Range. Mr. Duncan's award nomination emphasized his meritorious service in advancing transformational communications technology, as well as his contributions to the success of a multimillion-dollar laser tracking experiment.

Background

Mr. Duncan has worked at the Starfire Optical Range for the past 11 years making significant contributions toward increasing the site's adaptive optics capability. He has led major advances in sensor technology, hardware processing, data collection, and coordinated instrument controls that are used as standards for subsequent systems. From 1998 to 2001, Mr. Duncan headed a 60-member team of scientists and engineers to develop key beam-control technologies for the Transformational Communications System, surpassing customer expectations and receiving praise at the highest levels of the Department of Defense.

As the systems engineer for the Laser Tracking Experiment team, he successfully led the development of a classified, 5-year, \$20 million project funded by the Secretary of the Air Force (SAF). The tests conducted by this team verified the system's viability to compensate laser propagation for atmospheric turbulence and to effectively focus laser energy on a distant target, surpassing the requirements levied by SAF.

Mr. Duncan is a member of the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers. He has received many prestigious awards, including a Special Achievement Award (2003), the Directed Energy Directorate Chief Scientist Achievement Award (2002), the AFRL Commander's Cup Team Award (2002), the Air Force Performance Award (2000, 2001, 2002), the Air Force Meritorious Service Medal (1998), and the Lasers and Imaging Directorate Company Grade Officer of the Quarter (1994).

Additional Information

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